

CLAIMS

1. A method for reducing the sludge formed during the biological treatment of an aqueous effluent, said treatment comprising at least one step during which the effluent is contacted with microorganisms in an aeration tank, characterized in that an ozone-containing gas comprising at least 2.5 mg of ozone per liter of gas is injected into the aeration tank by means of an apparatus producing an emulsion of ozone-containing gas in the effluent.
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2. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the ozone-containing gas contains no more than 300 mg of ozone per liter of gas.
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3. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the apparatus producing an emulsion of ozone-containing gas in the effluent consists of a venturi supplied by a pump and comprising a means for injecting gas into the throat of the venturi.
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4. The method as claimed in claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the apparatus producing an emulsion of ozone-containing gas in the effluent consists of a turbine and means for injecting gas into the turbine.
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5. The method as claimed in claim 4, characterized in that the apparatus producing an emulsion of ozone-containing gas in the effluent consists of a self-suction turbine and a propeller, said self-suction turbine and said propeller being mounted on the same hollow drive shaft, and said hollow shaft supplying ozone-containing gas to the turbine.
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